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                    IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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                        FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA
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   FINOVA Capital Corporation,
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                   Plaintiff,
                                       No. CIV 02-1277-PHX RCB
                                                ORDER
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              Vs.
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   Richard A. Arledge, Inc.,
   d/b/a Arledge Motor Co.,
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   et al.,
                   Defendants.
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         On July 10, 2002, Plaintiff FINOVA Capital Corporation
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    ("FINOVA") filed a complaint against Defendants Richard A.
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   Arledge, Inc., d/b/a Arledge Motor Co., et al. ("the Arledges"),
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    in this Court. Compt. (doc. 1). On October 10, 2003, the Arledges
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   filed an amended answer and counterclaim, as well as a third-party
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   complaint (doc. 91). The third-party complaint was brought
   against Third-Party Defendant Leucadia National Corporation
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    ("Leucadia"). <u>Id.</u> Defendants filed a First Amended Original
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   Third-Party Complaint on May 10, 2004. (doc. 140).
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         On November 1, 2004, Leucadia filed a motion for summary
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judgment in this matter. Mot. (doc. 179). On March 17, 2005, the Court granted summary judgment in favor of Leucadia on all of the counts asserted in the Third-Party Complaint. Order (doc. 190) at 33. The Arledges moved for reconsideration of the Court's ruling, however, the Court denied such motion. Mot. for Reconsideration (doc. 192); Order (doc. 196).

The bench trial on the remaining claims and counterclaims between FINOVA and the Arledges is scheduled to begin on April 11, 2006. Final Pretrial Order (doc. 231). In anticipation of the start of the trial, a Final Pretrial Order was entered on January 26, 2006. FPO (doc. 231). Thereafter, Leucadia filed a motion requesting that the Court amend the Final Pretrial Order to delete the claims and issues listed involving Leucadia. Mot. to Amend (doc. 235). Specifically, Leucadia asserts that, in light of the Court's ruling granting Leucadia's motion for summary judgment, the Final Pretrial Order should be amended to remove all references to Leucadia, thereby prohibiting the Arledges from raising these issues at trial. Id. at 2. "The Arledge parties will not suffer prejudice from removing Leucadia from the Order because the claims against Leucadia have already been dismissed by this Court." Id. at 3.

In response, the Arledges oppose Leucadia's request. Resp. (doc. 242). First, the Arledges assert that Leucadia chose not to participate in the preparation of the Final Pretrial Order and should not be allowed to alter it now. <u>Id.</u> at 3. Second, they

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This scheduled trial is a trial on FINOVA's claims against the Arledges, and the Arledges' claims against FINOVA. No third-party claims shall be included in this trial.

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argue that Leucadia, regardless of whether or not claims remain against it, is an integral player in the facts and circumstances of this case, thus requiring the Arledges "to delve into and elicit testimony concerning Leucadia" at trial. <u>Id.</u> at 3-4. Third, the Arledges maintain that they "included their claims against Leucadia in the Final Pretrial Order solely for appellate purposes." <u>Id.</u> at 4. The Arledges, however, fail to cite any authority in support of these arguments.

The Court concludes that the Final Pretrial Order should be amended to remove all references to Leucadia.

Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that Leucadia's Motion to Amend the Pretrial Order to Delete Claims and Issues Involving Leucadia (doc. 235) is GRANTED.

Senior United States District Judge

DATED this 31st day of March, 2006.

Copies to counsel of record